

502 Ord Drive
Boulder, CO 80303-4732

June 26, 1999

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Dr. Jane Henney
Commissioner
U.S. FDA
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1471
Rockville, MD 20857

Dear Dr. Henney:

The Food and Drug Administration should ban the addition of human antibiotics to animal feeds. Over 80% of antibiotics used in agriculture are added to poultry, hog, and cattle feed, not to treat sick animals. The over-use of antibiotics is leading to their loss of effectiveness in treating human illnesses. One strain of *Salmonella* that is resistant to five different antibiotics tested increased from 0.6% of specimens tested in 1980 to 34% in 1997. Use of the new class of antibiotics, fluoroquinolones, in Britain has already led to fluoroquinolone-resistant *Salmonella*. The FDA approved fluoroquinolones for poultry in 1995.

Human antibiotics should be banned in animal feed, a proposal supported by the World Health Organization. The life-saving effectiveness of antibiotics should not be exchanged for non-essential uses in agriculture.

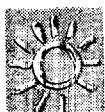
Sincerely,



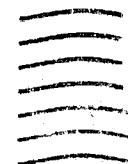
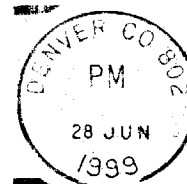
Martha Bushnell, Ph.D.

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Dr. Jane Henney
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U.S. Food & Drug Administration
5600 Fishers Lane, Room 1171
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